

THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

Carmarthenshire County Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

County Medical Officer
of Health

For the Year 1948.

CARMARTHEN:
PRINTED BY SPURRELL & SON, 37 KING STREET.

CONTENTS.

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	5
Committees	7
Public Health Officers	8
Statistics:	
Population	13
Births and Deaths	13
Maternal Mortality	14
Infant Mortality	14
Cancer Mortality	15
Causes of Death for Age Groups	16
Chief causes of Death	17
National Health Service	17
Laboratory Services	18
Midwifery Service	19
Home Nursing	20
Care of Mothers and Young Children	21
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics	21
Dental Treatment	22
Gynaecological Clinic	23
Unmarried Mothers and their Children	24
Premature Infants	24
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	25
Infant Welfare Centres	25
Medical Treatment of Infants	28
Child Life Protection	30
Nurseries and Child Minders	31
Health Visiting	31
Home Help Service	32
Nursing Homes	33
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care	33
Vaccination and Immunisation	34
Mental Health Service	36
County Ambulance Service	38
Communicable Diseases	40
Venercal Diseases	40
Tuberculosis	42
County Welfare Service	46
Blind Persons	46
Milk Control	49
Sanitary Circumstances:	
Water Supply	50
Sewerage	50
Table—Vital Statistics, 1948	52

INTRODUCTION.

It is much regretted that owing to pressure of work entailed in the implementation of new legislation, this report has been unavoidably delayed.

The year under review has been revolutionary in that the National Health Service Act, 1946, brought additional responsibilities to the County Council which was created a "Local Health Authority" with far-reaching powers in preventive medicine. The abolition of the autonomous County District Maternity and Child Welfare Authorities has resulted in the Local Health Authority being responsible for all personal preventive health services in the whole County. On the other hand, the County Council have lost their powers of providing hospital accommodation but this has caused little disruption as no development of Local Authority General Hospital Services had taken place in the County, and as the County Medical Officer of Health continued as Physician-Superintendent of the County Isolation Hospital, the Infectious Diseases Service remains complete and integrated.

Before the transfer of district nursing functions to the County Council took place on the 5th July, conferences were held with representatives of the County Nursing Association resulting in arrangements being made amicably and smoothly. The Home Nursing, Midwifery, and Health Visiting Services form a vital part of the Local Health Services and should play an increasingly important part in relieving the strain on hospital beds. During the year, a Chief Nursing Officer was appointed to supervise and co-ordinate all the nursing services of the Health Committee, and I must place on record my appreciation of the valuable help I have received from Miss M. Evans in the development of these services in spite of the difficulties encountered in keeping the services fully staffed.

A Section of the Act which offers very wide scope to the Local Health Authority deals with Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care of persons suffering from illness, but for the present activities under this Section are mainly related to Tuberculosis and Malignant Disease.

Vaccination and diphtheria immunisation are now the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, the work of the former falling mainly on the general practitioner and of the latter on the medical staff of the Authority. It is gratifying to report that no death has occurred from diphtheria at the County Isolation Hospital and only one in the whole County, during the past three years.

No development has occurred in the Mental Health Service owing to staffing difficulties. The future development of this Service and

also a Scheme which has been adopted by the County Council for the appointment of whole-time District Medical Officers of Health are dependent on satisfactory recruitment of staff.

The impact of the National Health Service Act on the School Health Service has been such that curative measures are not now its responsibility, but the work of ascertainment remains, as before, a very important duty of this Service.

The County Scheme under the National Assistance Act, 1948, for the welfare of handicapped persons should be the responsibility of the Health Committee so that the care of such persons in adult as well as in school life, could be co-ordinated by the Health Department.

It is gratifying to note that the Infant Mortality Rate (35 deaths per 1,000 live births) and the Maternal Mortality Rate (0.72 deaths per 1,000 live births) are the lowest on record for the County.

The Birth rate shows a decline and there is a corresponding decline in the Death Rate. There is a welcome fall in the number of stillbirths.

I am grateful for the support and help of the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and I must record my appreciation of the help and assistance I received from the professional, administrative and clerical members of the County Health Department.

March, 1950.

R. EVANS,
County Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1948.*(Established under the National Health Service Act, 1946).*

Chairman: Alderman Frank Davies.

Vice-Chairman: County Councillor W. H. Mathias.

Aldermen:

David Davies, C.B.E.
W. Edwards (*ex officio*)
D. B. Lewis.Joseph Howell.
W. Douglas Hughes (*ex officio*).
Dame Gwendoline Trubshaw.

Councillors:

Evan Bevan.
John Davies.
Griffith Evans.
Rev. R. G. James.
Mrs. C. Hopkins.John Morgan.
J. O. Morgans.
A. H. Olive.
Mrs. C. R. Rees.**PUBLIC HEALTH AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE,
1948.**

Chairman: Alderman Evan Davies.

Vice-Chairman: Alderman Frank Davies.

Aldermen:

W. Edwards (*ex officio*).
T. Ll. Harries.
W. Douglas Hughes (*ex officio*).
John Phillips.D. B. Lewis.
Captain Ithel Thomas.
Dame Gwendoline Trubshaw.

Councillors:

Evan Bevan.
Thomas Bowen.
T. S. Bowen.
David Davies.
John Davies.
J. M. Davies.
Thomas Davies.
W. W. Davies.
Rev. R. G. James.
J. Amos Jones.
D. G. J. Jones.
William Jones.
Edgar Lewis.W. H. Mathias.
T. W. Morgan.
A. H. Olive.
J. A. Owen.
Mrs. C. R. Rees.
D. L. Richards.
S. J. E. Samuel.
David Thomas.
S. O. Thomas.
S. R. Thomas.
W. P. Thomas.
D. J. Stone.
John Williams.

Rev. Chancellor S. B. Williams.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer:

R. Evans, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer:

D. G. G. Jones, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Chief Dental Officer:

G. Ungood Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Chief Nursing Officer:

Miss M. Evans, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (commenced duties 5th April, 1948).

Organiser of Home Helps:

Miss Joan M. Crossman (commenced duties 1st August, 1948).

County Ambulance Officer:

G. B. Evans (commenced duties 1st June, 1948),

Senior Administrative Assistant:

W. C. Thomas, M.B.E.

Assistant Medical Officers:

Gladys M. Herbert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

E. H. Beynon Hopkins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Elizabeth T. Davies-Humphreys, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

D. O. Davies, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

M. G. Danaher, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H. (commenced duties 1st August, 1948).

M. Neugroeschl, M.D.(Vienna) (part-time) (deceased 22nd March, 1948).

Elfyn T. Jones, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).

Assistant Dental Officers:

T. E. Mathias, L.R.C.P., L.D.S., R.C.S. (resigned 31st December, 1948).

W. U. Auerbach, M.D.(Berlin).

J. L. T. Davies, L.D.S. (commenced duties 1st September, 1948).

F. G. Day (temporary).

Gwilym Evans, L.D.S., R.C.S. (part-time).

Pathologist:

Gwenfron M. Griffiths, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Bacteriologist under the Medical Research Council:
W. Kwantes, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., Dip.Bact.

Chest Physicians:

J. T. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.
J. Kenyon Davies, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant Chest Physicians:

T. Walker, M.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., T.D.D.
M. Icht, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Medical Officer of Gynaecological Clinic:

J. Gwendoline Madel, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Medical Officers of V.D. Clinic:

Rhys Paton, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
D. E. Thomas, M.B., B.S.

Obstetrician:

J. R. E. James, M.B., F.R.C.S., D.R.C.O.G.

Orthopaedic Surgeon:

G. D. Rowley, M.Ch. (commenced duties 23rd February, 1948).

Ophthalmic Surgeons:

E. K. Roy Thomas, F.R.C.S., D.O.M.S., Swansea (ceased duties 30th June, 1948).
J. J. Healy, M.B., Ch.B., Llanelli.
G. S. Forrester, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S., Llanelli (commenced duties 1st April, 1948).

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons:

T. I. Williams, F.R.C.S., Llanelli.
C. P. Robinson, F.R.C.S., Swansea.
J. Crowther, F.R.C.S., Swansea.

Hon. Plastic Surgeon:

T. Pomfret Kilner, F.R.C.S., London.

Paediatrician:

Arthur G. Watkins, M.D., F.R.C.P., Cardiff.

Dermatologist:

D. Rhys Lewis, M.D., F.R.C.P., Swansea.

Dental Radiologist:

Iwan Davies, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.M.R.E., Swansea.

Consultant Orthodontist:

R. E. Rix, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., R.C.S., London.

Superintendent Health Visitor and Supervisor of Midwives:

Miss Eunice Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (resigned 20th January, 1948).

Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor:

Miss F. Hughes, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Senior Orthopaedic Sister:

Miss E. R. Buckley, C.S.P.

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister:

Miss G. E. Roberts, C.S.P. (resigned 31st August, 1948).

Miss L. M. Davies, C.S.P. (commenced duties 6th September, 1948).

Dental Attendants:

Miss M. R. Williams (resigned 30th September, 1948).

Miss Mair Aubrey (resigned 31st December, 1948).

Miss E. V. Lloyd.

Miss E. B. Evans.

Miss E. G. Badger (commenced duties 22nd November, 1948).

Mrs. V. M. Arundel (part-time).

Health Welfare Officers:

B. Bevan, Carmarthen.

B. Evans, Ammanford.

D. T. Longhurst, Llanelly.

W. I. Jones, Relief.

Home Teachers and Visitors for the Blind:

Mrs. M. A. Lewis.

Miss S. M. Tidmarsh.

Mrs. W. Davies.

Plasnewydd Mothercraft Hostel:

Medical Officer—E. Noel Rees, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.R.C.O.G.

Matron—Mrs. E. A. Williams, S.R.N., S.C.M.

County Analyst:

H. J. Evans, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S.

Inspectors under Food and Drugs Act:

Chief Inspector—D. R. Watkins.

Deputy Chief Inspector—E. D. Roberts.

NURSING.

District.			Nursc.			Qualifications.
Whole-time Health Visitors.						
Amman Valley	...	...	R. A. Roberts	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Ammanford	...	...	A. Howells	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Trimsaran	...	...	H. E. James	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Burry Port	...	...	F. M. Williams	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Llangennech	...	...	M. Jones	...	...	S.C.M., Health Visitors' Certificate, and Diploma in School Nursing and Hygiene.
Carmarthen Rural	...	...	D. Evans Murray	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
St. Clears	...	...	M. E. E. Davies	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M., and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Carmarthen Borough	...	...	G. I. Evans	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Llanelly Borough	...	...	M. C. Jones	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
			G. Greene	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
			G. M. Roberts	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
			S. Thomas	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Felinfoel	...	...	E. M. Jenkins	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Tumble	...	...	E. J. M. Jones	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.
Llandchie	...	...	M. L. James	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.

**District Nurse/Midwives/
Health Visitors.**

Drefach	...	...	M. C. James	...	...	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llangendcirne	...	...	M. E. John	...	...	S.C.M.
Saron	...	...	M. Adams	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Tycroes	...	...	M. Williams	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llangunmor	...	...	K. E. Critchley	...	...	S.C.M.
Abergwili	...	...	D. Morgan	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Nantgaredig	...	...	E. Thomas	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llangathen	...	...	E. Evans	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llanfihangel-Aberbythich	...	...	M. M. Davies	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llandilo (Town)	...	...	G. M. Lewis	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llandilo (South Ward)	...	...	E. A. Davies	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llandilo (North Ward)	...	...	E. J. Hughes	...	...	S.C.M.
Llansawel	...	...	M. L. Angel	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Talley	...	...	J. Evans	...	...	S.C.M.
Llanfynydd	...	...	E. A. Jones	...	...	S.C.M.
Llandovery	...	...	B. Davies	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Gilycwm	...	...	E. G. Cox	...	...	S.C.M.
Cao	...	...	S. Jenkins	...	...	S.C.M.
Llangadock	...	...	C. Jones	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llansadwrn and Llanwrda	...	...	M. E. Preece	...	...	S.C.M.
Newcastle Emlyn	...	...	V. J. Jones	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Velindre	...	...	G. R. Luke	...	...	S.R.N. and S.C.M.

District.	Nurse.	Qualifications.
Ferryside	M. M. T. Richards-Jones.	S.C.M.
Llanstephan	A. M. Lodwick	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Whitland	A. R. M. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Tb Certificate.
Clynderwen	S. F. Riley	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Pontyates	M. B. Harries	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llanybyther	D. Jones	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Pencader	E. Jenkins	S.C.M.
Pontyberem	Vacancy	
Llanboidy	D. E. Davies	S.C.M.

District Nurse/Midwives.

Bettws	S. E. Davies	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Ammanford	E. M. Edwards	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Brynamman	A. James	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Garnant	S. Jones	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Cwmamman	M. E. Edwards	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llangennech	E. M. Davies	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
	E. A. Mainwaring	S.C.M.
Llwynhendy	M. Drew	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Laugharne	E. E. Keall	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
St. Clears	M. F. Walters	S.C.M.
Abernant	M. O. Davies	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Conwil	R. G. Thomas	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Mydrim and Trelech	M. E. Daniels Morris	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Pwll, Sandy and Furnace	A. E. James	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Gorslas, "	A. Anthony Jones	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Tumble	H. E. A. Ratford	S.R.N., S.C.M. and R.F.N.
Felinfoel	A. R. Harries	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Dafen	E. M. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Tb Certificate.
Kidwelly	G. M. Thomas	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llandeibic	C. Alewood	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Penygroes	M. E. Gravelle	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Trimsaran	E. M. Thomas	S.R.N. and S.C.M.

District Nurses.

Carmarthen	D. M. Jones	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Burry Port	A. M. Probert	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Llanelli	M. Marpole	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
	E. A. Davies	S.R.N. and Tb. Certificate.
	H. Bushell	S.R.N.
	B. Bevan	S.E.A.N.
	M. Davies (Temporary)	

Whole-time Midwives.

Llanelli	E. A. Beynon	S.C.M.
	M. Griffiths	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
	K. Y. Perrott	S.C.M.
	S. Webster	S.C.M.
	M. David Griffiths	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Carmarthen	E. M. Evans	S.C.M.
	E. M. James	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Burry Port	O. G. Thomas	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Pembrey	A. Evans	S.C.M.
Relief	D. Insley	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Relief	M. G. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M. and Health Visitors' Certificate.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY.

Area: 588,472 acres.

Population—Census 1931: 179,100.

Estimated by Registrar General for 1948: 170,200.

Product of a penny rate for general purposes: £2,158.

Rateable value for general purposes: £552,294.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Live Births :

			Male.		Female.		Total.
Legitimate	...	...	1353	...	1266	...	2619
Illegitimate	...	...	59	...	55	...	114
Total	...	...	1412	...	1321	...	2733

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population : 16.06.

The following table shews the number of live births registered and the birth rates during the past five years:—

Year.	Urban.		Rural.		Admin. County.		England & Wales	
	No. Reg.	Rate.	No. Reg.	Rate.	No. Reg.	Rate.	Rate.	Rate.
1944	1194	17.6	1730	17.8	2924	17.7	...	17.6
1945	992	14.7	1605	16.8	2597	15.9	...	16.1
1946	1145	16.7	1615	16.8	2760	16.7	...	19.1
1947	1276	18.55	1684	17.47	2960	17.93	...	20.5
1948	1107	15.42	1626	16.52	2733	16.06	...	17.9

Stillbirths...

Male.		Female.		Total.
37	...	24	...	61

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births : 21.83.

Deaths :

Male.		Female.		Total.
1090	...	958	...	2048

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population: 12.03.

The following table gives a comparison of the total number of deaths and death rates during the past five years:—

Year.	Urban.			Rural.			Admin. County.			Rate for Eng. & Wales	
	Deaths.	Crude D.R.	Deaths.	Crude D.R.	Deaths.	Crude D.R.	Deaths.	Crude D.R.			
1944	...	864	12.7	...	1259	13.0	...	2123	12.9	...	11.6
1945	...	905	13.4	...	1177	12.3	...	2082	12.7	...	11.4
1946	...	923	13.4	...	1308	13.6	...	2231	13.5	...	11.5
1947	...	976	14.19	...	1262	13.09	...	2238	13.55	...	12.0
1948	...	869	12.11	...	1179	11.98	...	2048	12.03	...	10.8

Maternal Mortality.

Maternal Mortality covers the number of deaths in which pregnancy or child-birth was a primary cause of death. Two such cases in this County were reported by the Registrar General for the year 1948. Sepsis was not a complication in either case; one was due to obstetric shock and the other to heart disease.

These two deaths represent a maternal mortality rate of 0.72 and is the lowest recorded in the County. The rate for England and Wales for the year was 1.02. The figures for the last six years are as follows:—

Year.	Maternal Deaths.			No. of births.	Rate per 1,000 total births.		Rate for England and Wales.	
1943	...	5	...	2642	...	1.8	...	2.29
1944	...	12	...	2924	...	3.9	...	1.93
1945	...	10	...	2597	...	3.7	...	1.79
1946	...	10	...	2760	...	3.5	...	1.43
1947	...	9	...	3054	...	2.9	...	1.17
1948	...	2	...	2794	...	0.7	...	1.02

While a considerable decrease in the maternal mortality rate for the County for 1948 gives a good deal of satisfaction, care must be taken not to arrive at hasty conclusions. The figures for the next few years must be awaited before it can be concluded that the improvement can be maintained.

Deaths due to pregnancy were specially investigated and confidential reports sent to the Chief Medical Officer of the Welsh Board of Health. I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operation of the medical practitioners in reporting voluntarily all such cases and enabling the desired confidential reports to be completed.

Infant Mortality.

There were 98 deaths of infants under one year old; an infant mortality rate of 35.86 per 1,000 live births. This is the lowest on record for the County and compares with a rate of 34.0 for England and Wales.

A classification of the deaths is as follows:—

		Males.		Females.	...	Total.		Rate.
Legitimate	...	54	...	40	...	94	...	35.89
Illegitimate	...	2	...	2	...	4	...	35.09
		—		—		—		—
Totals	...	56	...	42	...	98	...	35.86
		—		—		—		—

The chief causes of death were, premature birth 34, congenital malformation, birth injuries, and infant diseases 36, and pneumonia 13.

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases:

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	5
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	Nil

Cancer.

The death rates per 1,000 population during the last five years have been:—

Year.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 population.
1944	302	1.8
1945	305	1.8
1946	307	1.8
1947	299	1.8
1948	323	1.9

A classification of the causes of death from Cancer during 1948 is as follows:—

Site of Cancer.		Age Periods.						Total	Grand Total.
		0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—		
Mouth, Gullet and Uterus	M	—	1	—	1	5	12	19	44
	F	—	—	—	3	13	9	25	
Stomach and Duodenum	M	—	—	—	5	13	24	42	75
	F	—	—	—	—	9	24	33	
Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35
	F	—	—	—	3	14	18	35	
All Other Sites	M	—	—	—	5	40	45	90	169
	F	—	—	1	4	29	45	79	
TOTALS	M	—	1	—	11	58	81	151	323
	F	—	—	1	10	65	96	172	

The following table gives the causes of death in 1948 at specified ages:—

Cause of Death.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and over.
All Causes —Males	1090	56	10.	17	97	325	585
Females	958	42	8	11	77	209	611
Total	2048	98	18	28	174	534	1196
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
4. Whooping Cough	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
5. Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	89	...	1	1	53	26	8
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	25	1	2	6	4	10	2
8. Syphilitic Diseases	2	...	...	...	...	1	1
9. Influenza	5	...	...	...	...	2	3
10. Measles	4	2	1	1	...	...	...
11. Ac. Polio-myelitis and Polio-enceph.	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
12. Ac. enceph.	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
13. Cancer of buc. cav. and oesoph. (m.), utcrus (f.)	44	...	1	...	4	18	21
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	75	...	...	...	5	22	48
15. Cancer of Breast	35	...	...	...	3	14	18
16. Cancer of all other sites	169	...	...	1	9	69	90
17. Diabetes	15	...	...	...	1	8	6
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	269	...	...	...	2	54	213
19. Heart Disease	553	...	...	3	27	142	381
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	72	...	...	...	...	18	54
21. Bronchitis	89	1	...	2	3	24	59
22. Pneumonia	61	13	2	...	2	14	30
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	60	...	...	...	3	31	26
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	15	...	...	...	1	8	6
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	5	5	...	...	...	...	...
26. Appendicitis	7	1	...	1	1	3	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	28	...	3	1	2	6	16
28. Nephritis	75	...	...	2	9	15	49
29. Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Other Maternal Causes	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
31. Premature Birth	34	34	...	...	...	...	...
32. Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infant Dis.	44	36	1	2	3	2	...
33. Suicide	18	...	...	...	4	8	6
34. Road traffic Accidents	12	...	2	1	3	3	3
35. Other Violent Causes	32	...	2	2	10	4	14
36. All Other Causes	205	4	3	4	22	31	141
Total	2048	98	18	28	174	534	1196

The chief causes of death during 1948 and the rates per 1,000 population compared with previous years were:—

Cause of Death	1944		1945		1946		1947		1948	
	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.
Heart Disease	461	2.8	486	2.9	553	3.3	532	3.22	553	3.25
Cancer	302	1.8	305	1.8	307	1.8	299	1.81	323	1.87
Tuberculosis (all forms)	133	0.80	113	0.69	119	0.72	117	0.71	114	0.66
Vascular Lesions of Brain	254	1.5	258	1.5	270	1.6	280	1.70	269	1.58
Pneumonia ...	74	0.45	69	0.42	80	0.48	73	0.44	61	0.35
Bronchitis ...	119	0.7	115	0.7	127	0.76	129	0.78	89	0.52
Nephritis ...	69	0.42	75	0.46	79	0.48	69	0.42	75	0.44

Deaths from the above causes for 1948 constitute about 72% of the total deaths.

The senile mortality, *i.e.* the number of deaths of persons over 65 years was 1,196 or about 58% of the total deaths in 1948.

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, all functions relating to curative medicine passed from the County Council to the Welsh Regional Hospital Board as from the 5th July, 1948, and the Council were given additional duties in the realm of what is now becoming to be known as "social medicine."

Co-operation between the Local Health Authority and the Regional Hospital Board is maintained at officer level through a Liaison Committee and personal contact. Loss of County Council control of hospital beds caused no undue difficulty. The Local Authority machinery was used in the County for the control of the admission of maternity patients to Hospital on social grounds. The admission of cases of communicable disease remained directly under the control of the County Medical Officer of Health who continued as Physician Superintendent of the West Wales Isolation Hospital.

The County is for Hospital and Specialist Services now dependent upon three Hospital Management Committees, one of which is responsible for mental treatment and controls St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen, and Pantglas Hall, Llanfynydd. The West Wales Hospital Management Committee control Hospitals in roughly the western half of the County, *viz.*: West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen; West Wales Isolation

Hospital, Upper Tumble; West Wales Sanatorium, Llanybyther; and the Llandovery Cottage Hospital. They also control the Tuberculosis Dispensaries at Carmarthen, Llandilo, Velindre, Newcastle Emlyn and Whitland, and are joint users with the Local Authority of Penlan Home, Carmarthen. The eastern part of the County comes under the Glantawe Hospital Management Committee which controls the Llanelly Hospital; Amman Valley Hospital, Glanamman; Glasfryn Maternity Home, Llanelly; Bryntirion Hospital, Llanelly; Llanelly V.D. Clinic; and Tuberculosis Dispensaries at Llanelly, Ammanford and Tumble.

Difficulties were experienced in connection with the specialist services for children which had been taken over by the Regional Hospital Board. At the end of 1948, the only specialist service which had been taken over by the Regional Hospital Board was that connected with ear, nose and throat defects, but the number of sessions available for these cases was reduced considerably and there were 808 children waiting for advice or treatment at the end of the year. The position improved in 1949 after the Regional Hospital Board had been able to complete their arrangements. The arrangements for specialist ophthalmic examinations which had worked so well for twenty-five years, suffered disastrously as the result of the operation of the National Health Service. The work of the County Eye Clinics had been expected to continue as before, but after the 5th July, 1948, the Ophthalmic Surgeons were unable to devote the time required for school children and in 1949, the waiting lists of children for specialist ophthalmic examination increased to over 1,000. The work of the Orthopaedic Clinics continued but the Orthopaedic Surgeon is under the control of the Hospital Board. The School Dental Service could not be expanded as had been anticipated.

General practitioner, pharmaceutical, and supplementary services are the responsibility of the Health Executive Council whose Area is co-terminous with that of the County Council who are the Local Health Authority. Helpful co-operation has taken place with the Executive Council.

LABORATORY SERVICES.

Bacteriological facilities for the County are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Carmarthen, which is controlled by the Medical Research Council. Excellent service to the community is rendered by this Laboratory which is of great value in the control of epidemics. Full co-operation is maintained between the staff of the Laboratory and the Health Department.

The Pathological Laboratory which was previously controlled by the County Council has now been taken over by the Regional Hospital Board.

During 1948, specimens as follows were examined at the Laboratories:—

Bacteriological	...	15,990
Pathological	...	6,062

MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

The County Council is for the whole County, the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts, and 134 Midwives notified their intention to practise in the area during 1948, viz.:—

	As Midwives.	As Maternity Nurses.
Domiciliary Midwives	99	4
Institutional Midwives	26	5

There was no change in the general arrangements of the Authority for a Midwifery Service as a result of the operation of the National Health Service. Nine Whole-time County Council Midwives were employed under these arrangements, viz.:—

Llanelly Borough	5
Carmarthen Borough	2
Burry Port and Pembrey...	2

Two District Nurse/Midwives directly employed by the County Council covered midwifery work in the Trimsaran, and Mydrim and Trelech Districts. In other parts of the County, District Nurse/Midwives of Nursing Associations undertook midwifery work for the Authority.

The authorised establishment of Midwives includes six Whole-time Relief Midwives, but only two were on the staff at the end of 1948. The Chief Nursing Officer experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining the services of Relief Midwives when required.

Cases attended by the Midwives during the year were as follows:—

	As Midwife.	As Maternity Nurse.	Total.
County Council Midwives...	405	66	471
District Nurse Midwives ...	723	206	929
Institution Midwives	1130	266	1396
Private Midwives	40	6	46
GRAND TOTAL	2298	544	2842

There were two maternal deaths during the year (compared with nine in 1947). Both deaths occurred at Hospital; one had not booked a doctor or a Midwife, and the other had been under monthly supervision of the private doctor.

Supervision of Midwives.—Miss Eunice Jones resigned her appointment as non-medical Supervisor of Midwives on the 20th January. She was succeeded by Miss M. Evans, who commenced duties on the 5th April, 1948, as Chief Nursing Officer of the County. Miss Evans's duties include the supervision of the work of district nursing and health visiting, in addition to that of midwifery.

120 visits of supervision were made during the year to District Nurse/Midwives, and 51 visits to Whole-time County Council Midwives. Special visits of investigation were as follows:—

Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	7
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...		12
Maternal Deaths ...	...	5
Infant Deaths ...	...	19

Stillbirths.—A stillbirth is defined as the birth of a child after the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy, which, after complete expulsion, did not breathe or show any signs of life. There were 61 stillbirths (37 males and 24 females) registered in the County in 1948, giving a rate of 21.83 per 1,000 total births.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—Nine cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year. Eight of these were treated at Hospital and one at home. In no case was a second opinion requested.

Institutional Provision for Maternity Cases.—In accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, all maternity hospital accommodation passed to the Regional Hospital Board as from the 5th July, 1948, and the County Council ceased to have control over such beds. However, under an arrangement made with the West Wales and Glantawe Hospital Management Committees, I continued to screen applications for the hospital admission of maternity patients on social grounds. Control of the admission of cases on medical grounds was immediately taken over by the Hospital Management Committees.

HOME NURSING.

A new responsibility falling on the County Council as the result of the National Health Service Act, 1946, is the duty to provide nurses to attend persons who require nursing in their own homes. The County Council were fortunate that under the guidance and with the encouragement of the County Nursing Association, assisted by grants made by the Council, voluntary District Nursing Associations had been formed in almost all parts of the County. These Nursing Associations were providing a high standard of home nursing, and tribute must be paid to the voluntary Committees concerned and their Honorary Officers for having continued the work of the Nursing Associations for so many years often in spite of financial difficulties. It was natural that the County Nursing Association and the District Nursing Associations should have been

asked to join in the arrangements of the County Council, and they agreed to do so. I am happy to report that the arrangements have worked exceedingly well and the Nursing Associations have co-operated in every way possible.

The Trelech and Mydrim Nursing Association withdrew from the arrangements before the appointed day, and the Authority arranged to employ directly a Whole-time Nurse in the Area. The Whole-time Midwife at Trimsaran had district nursing added to her duties, and the few other areas in the County not covered by a District Nurse were added to the areas of existing Nursing Associations. Seven Whole-time District Nurses, 50 District Nurse/Midwives and two Nurses directly employed by the County Council. This staff was equivalent to the services of 28 Whole-time District Nurses.

For the period 5th July to 31st December, 1948, 14,122 home nursing cases were attended to and 37,738 home visits were made by the Nurses.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

As from the 5th July, 1948, the Llanelly and Carmarthen Borough Councils ceased to be Maternity and Child Welfare Authorities, and responsibility for the care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children in those areas passed to the County Council. The general arrangements for the County continued as in past years.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.—In addition to Ante-Natal Clinics at Llanelly and Carmarthen which were transferred from the Borough Authorities, six new Ante-Natal Clinics were opened in the County during the year, but one (Whitland) was afterwards closed because of the very low attendances.

Eight Ante-Natal Clinics as follows were functioning at the end of the year:—

Clinic.	No. of sessions weekly.	Medical Officer in Charge.
Ammanford ...	One	Dr. G. M. Herbert.
Llanelly ...	One	Dr. M. G. Danaher.
Carmarthen ...	One	Dr. Elfyn T. Jones.
Llangennech ...	Two	Dr. M. G. Danaher.
Kidwelly ...	Two	Dr. E. T. Davies-Humphreys.
Burry Port ...	Two	Dr. E. T. Davies-Humphreys.
Cross Hands ...	Two	Dr. M. G. Danaher.
Llandilo ...	One	Dr. G. M. Herbert.

Post-natal cases are seen at all the Clinics; a special post-natal session is held fortnightly at the Ammanford Clinic.

Including attendances made at the Borough Clinics prior to the 5th July, 1,220 individual cases made 5,232 attendances at all Clinics during the year, viz.:—

Ante-Natal	...	1,097 cases—4,998 attendances.
Post-Natal	...	123 cases— 234 attendances.

Dental Treatment.—The report of Mr. Ungood Griffiths is as follows:—

In the past twenty-three years, the School Dental Service has gradually increased in efficiency and has rendered good service to the County, and it has long been a matter of much concern that the Service could not be extended to include the care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children. Isolated cases referred from Infant Welfare Centres have been dealt with at the School treatment sessions, but the dental staff has been insufficient to do more than this.

Following discussions with the local Dental Committee late in 1947, the dentists practising in the County agreed to co-operate in a Scheme whereby expectant and nursing mothers could obtain treatment (including the provision of dentures). Each patient was entitled to select any dentist from the List of Dentists who had notified their willingness to participate in the arrangements. Payment to the dentists was made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee in accordance with the scale under the National Health Insurance (Dental Benefit) Regulations. No charge was made to patients for conservative treatment or extractions, but contributions according to means were payable towards the cost of dentures.

The Scheme was put into operation in February, 1948, but, as so often happens with any new arrangements for treatment, patients were slow to take advantage of the facilities. This accounts for the low figures of treatment given below. When patients were beginning to appreciate the benefits, the arrangements were terminated by the Dental Committee on the 5th July, when the National Health Service Act came into force.

Under the arrangements with the Local Dental Committee, 37 patients were authorised to receive treatment. In 21 cases the provision of dentures was sanctioned, and in 4 cases they were provided; the remaining 17 cases were completed under the National Health Service. 37 teeth were extracted and 33 teeth filled. The Scheme was of so short a duration that it was not possible to assess results with any degree of accuracy. However, it was gratifying to note the efforts made towards the conservation of teeth; the number of saveable teeth filled was almost equal to those extracted. This is an indication that patients received careful treatment. Thanks are due to the Local Dental Committee and to the dentists who participated in the scheme for their sincere co-operation.

The termination of the arrangements with the Dental Committee was greatly regretted. All that can be done now by the County Staff for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers is to refer them to their private dentists who so far as possible give these patients priority. Unfortunately, the volume of work devolving on private dentists under the National Health Service does not facilitate the granting of a high degree of priority.

The inadequacy of dental staff employed by Local Authorities is a national problem, and so far as this County is concerned, is a problem which makes it impossible for the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and infants to be undertaken by the County Dental Staff. There also seems to be little prospect of any improvement in the position for some time to come.

G. UNGOED GRIFFITHS,
Chief Dental Officer.

Gynaecological Clinic.—This Clinic which was taken over from the Llanelly Borough Council on the 5th July, 1948, is held twice monthly for married women requiring advice on birth control on medical grounds. Dr. J. Gwendoline Madel, Swansea, is the Medical Officer in charge.

The Clinic was established by the Llanelly Borough Council over eleven years ago and tribute must be paid to the Council for their initiative in the matter. Cases from outside the Borough Area were allowed to attend the Clinic in past years, but now that it serves the whole County, I have no doubt that increasing use will be made of the services of the Clinic. Indeed, Dr. Madel in her Annual Report states that "since the 5th July, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of new patients making use of the Clinic." Attendances at the Clinic during 1948 were as follows:—

				New Patients.	Old Patients.		Total.
1st January to 4th July	...	...	...	9	...	62	71
5th July to the 31st December	...	...	...	18	...	49	67
Totals	...	...	...	27	...	111	138

Some examples of the type of cases receiving advice and instruction at the Clinic are as follows:—Eclampsia, Bright's Disease, Tuberculosis, Anxiety Neurosis, Thyrotoxicosis, Severe Anaemia.

The Clinic is held at the Nurses' Home of the Llanelly District Nursing Association and Dr. Madel concludes her report:—

"In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation of the services afforded by Nurse Grcene whose unfailing sympathy and understanding have meant so much to the success of the Clinic. To

Miss Marpole, Matron of the Llanelly District Nursing Association, I extend my warmest thanks for her many acts of kindness to the Clinic Staff."

Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children.—Plasnewydd Mothercraft Hostel is maintained by the County Council for the reception of unmarried mothers. Accommodation is available for ten ante-natal patients, ten post-natal patients and ten infants. Patients are normally admitted up to three months before confinement and up to three months after confinement, but in special cases these periods may be extended. Applications for admission are dealt with by a Ladies Sub-Committee in collaboration with the St. David's Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee. Patients are admitted to Maternity Hospitals for confinement.

Negotiations were completed during the year for the reservation of beds as follows for the patients of other Authorities:

Pembrokeshire	...	4 beds.
Swansea	...	2 beds.
Glamorgan	...	2 beds.

The agreements with these Authorities provide for the acceptance of additional patients if vacancies are available at the Hostel. Patients are also accepted from other Authorities if there are vacant beds.

Thirty-eight patients were admitted during 1948, and twelve were in residence on the 31st December. Further details are given in the following Table:—

Authority.	Number of Patients.			
	On 31st Dec., 1947.	Admitted 1948.	Total.	On 31st Dec., 1948.
Carmarthenshire ...	4	18	22	6
Pembrokeshire ...	3	14	17	3
Swansea ...	—	2	2	—
Cardiganshire ...	—	1	1	1
Other ...	2	3	5	2
Totals ...	9	38	47	12

Close co-operation is also maintained with the St. David's Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee in the case of unmarried mothers generally. The Committee assist unmarried mothers in every way possible, and, if necessary, arrange for the adoption of the infants.

Premature Infants.—Premature infants are those notified as having a birth weight of 5½ lbs. or less, irrespective of the period of

gestation. The arrangements of the Authority for the care of premature infants include the loan of cots and cot clothing, hot water bottles, and special nursing and feeding equipment. These arrangements will be put into operation as soon as possible. Midwives and Health Visitors devote special attention to these infants.

145 premature infants were notified during 1948 and further information is as follows:—

(a) Number born at home	...	...	...	...	60
(i) Nursed entirely at home	...	...	...	...	48
(ii) Transferred to Hospital	...	...	...	...	12
(iii) Died within first twenty-four hours	...	...	...	...	7
(iv) Others who died within first twenty-eight days	...	...	...	...	4
(v) Survived at end of twenty-eight days	...	...	...	...	49
(b) Born in Hospital	...	...	...	...	85
(i) Died during first twenty-four hours	...	...	...	...	10
(ii) Others who died within first twenty-eight days	...	...	...	...	10
(iii) Survived at end of twenty-eight days	...	...	...	...	65

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Four cases were notified during the year. The following table gives particulars of the notifications for the last five years:—

The last five years.								
Year.	Cases.			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Vision lost	Deaths	Under Treatment at end of year
	Notified	Treated.						
		At Home	In Hospital					
1944	5	3	2	5	—	—	—	—
1945	4	2	2	4	—	—	—	—
1946	3	2	1	3	—	—	—	—
1947	3	1	2	3	—	—	—	—
1948	4	2	2	4	—	—	—	—

Infant Welfare Centres.—The Infant Welfare Centres at Llanelli and Carmarthen were transferred to the County Council, and seven new Centres were opened in the County during the year, viz., at Llangadock, Ferryside, Pumpsaint, Velindre, Efailwen, Pendine, and Laugharne. Following the opening of the Centre at Velindre, the arrangements for the attendance of Carmarthenshire cases at the Henllan Infant Welfare Centre (Cardiganshire) ceased. Infants from this County continued to attend the Glamorgan Infant Welfare Centre at Pontardulais.

At the end of 1948, 35 Infant Welfare Centres were operating in the County, and I must again record my appreciation of the part played by members of the Voluntary Ladies Committees in the success of the Centres.

A list of the Infant Welfare Centres and other information for 1948 is as follows:—

Centre.	Where held.	Day held.	No. of Sessions	Attendances.
Ammanford ...	Child Welfare Clinic, High Street, Ammanford.	Tuesday ...	26	2974
Brynamman ...	St. Catherine's Church Hall, Brynamman.	Tuesday ...	24	868
Burry Port ...	Memorial Hall, Burry Port ...	Tuesday ...	25	1492
Carmarthen Borough.	The Clinic, Pond Street, Carmarthen.	Monday ...	25	998
Carmarthen Rural.	The Clinic, Pond Street, Carmarthen.	Wednesday	19	362
Cwmamman ...	Garnant County Primary School,	Wednesday	22	730
Efailwen ...	Nebo Vestry	Thursday	18	111
Felinfoel ...	The Aelwyd, Penygaer, Felinfoel	Thursday	26	605
Ferryside ...	Ex-R.A.F. Camp, Ferryside ...	Tuesday ...	23	423
Ffairfach ...	Abercennen, Ffairfach ...	Wednesday	13	263
Furnace ...	Ainon Vestry, Furnace	Wednesday	26	370
Gorslas ...	Church Hall, Gorslas	Tuesday ...	26	882
Kidwelly ...	Trinity Methodist Church, Kidwelly.	Tuesday ...	26	506
Laugharne ...	Memorial Hall, Laugharne ...	Tuesday ...	14	141
Llandeby ...	Memorial Hall, Llandeby ...	Thursday	27	550
Llandilo ...	Church Hall, Llandilo	Wednesday	14	262
Llandovery ...	Reading Room and Institute, Llandovery.	Tuesday ...	26	505
Llancllydlyd Borough	Old Town Hall, Llancllydlyd ...	Mon., Wed., and Fri.	74	1791
Llangadock ...	Y.M.C.A. Hall, Llangadock ...	Friday ...	21	308
Llanstephan ...	Ben Harries Institute, Llanstephan.	Wednesday	22	278
Llangennech ...	Salem Chapel Vestry, Llangennech.	Tuesday ...	26	829
Llwynhendy ...	Nazareth Chapel Vestry, Llwynhendy	Tuesday ...	26	1175
Newcastle Emlyn	Cawdor Temperance Hotel, Newcastle Emlyn.	Tuesday ...	26	360

Centre.	Where held.	Day held.	No. of Sessions	Attendances.
Pencader ...	Tabernacle Vestry, Pencader ...	Thursday	26	468
Pendine ...	The Institute, Llanmiloe, Pendine	Tuesday ...	14	127
Penygroes ...	Congregational Chapel Vestry, Penygroes.	Tuesday ...	26	1083
Pontyberem ...	Public Hall, Pontyberem ...	Wednesday	26	1299
Pontyates ...	Welfare Hall, Pontyates ...	Wednesday	25	1116
Pumpsaint ...	Coronation Hall, Pumpsaint ...	Thursday	16	115
Pwll ...	Salem Chapel Vestry, Pwll ...	Wednesday	26	695
Trimsaran ...	Workmen's Institute, Trimsaran	Tuesday ...	25	726
Tumble ...	Welfare Pavilion, Tumble ...	Tuesday ...	25	379
Velindre ...	Red Dragon Hall, Velindre, Llandyssul	Thursday	18	281
Whitland ...	Memorial Hall, Whitland ...	Friday ...	26	637
Ystradowen ...	The County Primary School, Ystradowen	Wednesday	23	395

All Centres are held fortnightly except as follows:—

Llanelly—Three sessions weekly.

Carmarthen Borough—Two sessions weekly.

Llandilo—One session monthly.

Ffairfach—One session monthly.

Number of children who attended Centres for the FIRST TIME:—

Under 1 year of age ... 1,523

Between 1 and 5 years of age ... 490

2,013

Number of children under 5 years of age who attended Centres during the year and who at the end of the year were:—

Under 1 year of age ... 1,687

Over 1 year of age ... 2,940

4,627

Welfare Foods.—Welfare Foods are supplied under the arrangements of the Authority at the Llanelli Infant Welfare Centre. At other Centres, supply and distribution is undertaken by the Ladies Committees. Close co-operation is maintained with the local offices of the Ministry of Food.

Medical Treatment of Infants.—All arrangements for the medical treatment of school children are available for those under school age, but many infants are referred by the Medical Officers of the Infant Welfare Centres direct to general practitioners for treatment. The following is a summary of the treatment undertaken by the Authority for infants during 1948:—

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.—Four children were referred to the Surgeons for examination and advice. Five children received in-patient hospital treatment for enlarged tonsils and adenoids.

Eye Defects.

Number of children examined by Surgeons	...	42
Number of children for whom glasses were provided:		
By the Committee	... ..	17*
By private arrangements made by parents	...	1

*Including three provided under National Health Service.

Plastic Surgery.—Cases requiring plastic surgery are treated by Professor T. Pomfret Kilner, F.R.C.S., at the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton, Hampshire. The arrangements have been in operation since 1937, but they will cease when the arrangements for plastic treatment are completed by the Regional Hospital Board.

During 1948, thirteen cases were treated by Professor Pomfret Kilner, viz.:—

Health Committee	...	...	...	5
Education Committee	...	...	...	8

Orthopaedic Treatment.—The work of the Orthopaedic Clinics continued as in past years except that the Orthopaedic Surgeon came under the control of the Regional Hospital Board. Mr. Gordon Rowley, Swansea, succeeded Mr. A. O. Parker as Visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon. Mr. Parker had resigned his appointment on the 31st December, 1947. Miss L. M. Davies was appointed Assistant Orthopaedic Sister in place of Miss G. E. Roberts who resigned on the 31st August, 1948.

Seventeen Orthopaedic Clinics are functioning in the County, and on the 31st December, 1948, 2,244 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz.:—

County Education Committee	...	1600
County Health Committee	...	613
West Wales Hospital Management Committee	... ..	17
Glanawe Hospital Management Committee	... ..	14

An analysis of the cases of the Health Committee and the Hospital Management Committees according to diagnosis is as follows:—

	Health Committee.	Hospital Management Committees.	Total.
Paralysis:			
Infantile	12	13	25
Spastic	15	2	17
Obstetrical	—	—	—
Other	1	1	2
Congenital Deformities	252	4	256
Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints ...	—	2	2
Non-infective conditions of Bones and Joints:			
Rickets	5	1	6
Other	2	3	5
Static or Postural Defects	305	2	307
Traumatic Deformities	3	2	5
Multiple Defects	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	18	1	19
Totals	613	31	644

A summary of the work undertaken for these cases under the orthopaedic arrangements is given in the following table:—

	Health Committee.	Hospital Management Committees.	Total.
Number of individual children under Scheme on 1st January, 1948	484	—	484
Number of new cases during the year ...	362	—	362
Number of individual cases dealt with during the year	972	31	1003
Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme...	124	—	124
Number of children under the Scheme on the 31st December	613	31	644
Total number of attendances made at the clinics	2475	26	2501
Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters	11	—	11
Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters	2	—	2
Number of home visits by Sisters ...	372	7	379
Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon	150	2	152
Number of cases recommended in-patient hospital treatment by Surgeon	1	—	1

Six children under school age were admitted to Hospital for orthopaedic treatment during the year.

Artificial Light Therapy.—Sixteen children under school age received treatment at the Llanelly Clinic, and 39 at the Carmarthen Clinic.

Child Life Protection.—The duties in connection with Child Life Protection passed to the Children's Committee during the latter part of the year. Two cases under nine years of age were on the register at that time. There were also three cases who had previously passed out of supervision but were still under school-leaving age.

Although Health Visitors do not now act as Visitors for Child Life Protection, such children under 5 years of age continue to be supervised by them as part of normal health visiting duties. On attending school, the children come under the supervision of the School Health Service.

Nurseries and Child Minders.—The Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948, places on the Health Authority the duty of maintaining registers of, and supervising:

- (a) Premises in their area, other than premises wholly or mainly used as private dwellings, where children are received to be looked after for the day or a substantial part of a day or for any longer period not exceeding six days.
- (b) Persons in their area who for reward receive into their homes children under the age of five to be looked after for the day or a substantial part of a day or for any longer period not exceeding six days.

The Act does not apply to residential nurseries or to persons—such as foster-parents—who provide a home for children apart from their parents.

After the 30th October, 1948, it became an offence for premises to be used as a Day Nursery unless they are registered with the Authority, or for an unregistered daily minder to receive three or more children from more than one household unless he or she is a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt of the children.

The provisions of the Act were brought to the notice of the general public by advertisements in the press. Health Visitors and District Nurses were also informed.

No application for registration was received.

HEALTH VISITING.

Prior to the 5th July, 1948, the duties of the Health Visitor were primarily concerned with the care of mothers and young children, and the duties connected with the School Health Service. Under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, she also became concerned with the health of the household as a whole, including the preservation of health and precautions against the spread of infection. Her work, however, does not encroach on the responsibilities of the District Nurse, Midwife, or of the Sanitary Inspector. She has to work in close co-operation with these Officers.

The County will gradually be staffed entirely by Whole-time Health Visitors with the exception of the districts of Caio, Cilyewm, and Llansawcl. The District Nurses in these Areas will continue to act as part-time Health Visitors.

At the end of 1948, 15 Whole-time Health Visitors were employed (including five transferred from the Llanelly and Carmarthen Boroughs), and 31 part-time Health Visitors.

The following summarises the work of the Health Visitors during the past five years.

Year.	Infants under 1 year.		Children 1—5 years.	Grand Total.
	First visits.	Total visits.		
1944	2112	17312	18466	35778
1945	1848	16308	19009	35317
1946	1873	14870	17979	32849
1947	2072	14885	18909	33794
1948	2315*	17021*	18655*	35676*

*Figures include the work of the Health Visitors for Llanelly and Carmarthen Boroughs only from the 5th July, 1948.

Student Health Visitors.—In view of the shortage of qualified Health Visitors, the Authority have resolved that Student Health Visitors be appointed from time to time. Two were appointed during 1948. While in training, the students are paid by the Authority three-quarters of the minimum of the Rushcliffe Scale of Salaries. All expenses incurred when training are paid by the students, who are required to give an undertaking to serve under the Authority for at least two years after the completion of the Course.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

Spasmodic efforts had been made from time to time to establish a Home Help Service in the County under the powers held by Maternity and Child Welfare Authorities, but without success. A service which involves domestic work under all sorts of conditions, obviously does not readily attract women however altruistic they may be, and many patients have a strong objection to strangers having intimate access to their homes. The absence of a Home Help Service was, however, a handicap to the County Health Services.

The arrangements of the Authority under the National Health Service Act, provide for the assistance of Home Helps for households where such helps are considered by the County Medical Officer of Health to be required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age. No assistance is, however, provided if it amounts to the provision of a Housekeeper.

Whole-time Home Helps have not been appointed, but the Authority will make such appointments where experience proves their necessity. Part-time and temporary Home Helps are employed. Part-time Home Helps receive a basic weekly wage and they are paid additional wages at the normal rate for work in excess of 18 hours in any week. A householder or patient may arrange for a Home Help to reside at the house.

It was at the outset realised that the success of the Scheme required the services of an efficient and enthusiastic Organiser and the appointment fell to Miss Joan M. Crossman who has proved herself to be so well fitted for the post. The Organiser commenced duties on the 1st August, 1948, and in the following few months little more than propaganda and hard pioneering work was possible, and how well this groundwork laid the foundations was seen in the achievements of the Service in the following year. Reference must be made to the co-operation and assistance rendered by the District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors, the Women's Voluntary Service and other voluntary organisations in the County.

On the 31st December, 1948, thirty-seven Home Helps were available for duty, one of whom was a part-time Help. Sixty-two cases had been assisted, viz.:—

Maternity	...	26
Illness	... ..	25
Old Age	...	6
Aged and Blind...		1
Convalescent	...	4

Twenty other applications for assistance had been received but were not granted. Four applicants withdrew their applications after they were granted.

NURSING HOMES.

The two Nursing Homes in the County closed during the year, viz.:—

Glanelli Nursing Home, Llanelly—30th March, 1948.

Goring Road Nursing Home, Llanelly—31st December, 1948.

There are now no registered Nursing Homes in the County and no application for registration was received during the year.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

Of the additional duties placed on the County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, none is likely to be so far-reaching as the service for the prevention of illness, care and after-care. There would appear to be no limit to the extent to which the service might develop, except for the provision of medical treatment and the making of money payments. At present, the arrangements are limited in this County to:—

- (a) Tuberculous patients and their families.
- (b) Patients suffering from malignant disease and their families.
- (c) The provision of sick room and nursing requisites required by any patients being nursed at home.

The Health Committee have appointed a Care and After-Care Sub-Committee to exercise the functions of the Authority under these arrangements.

Home nursing and Home Helps are provided when necessary under the County arrangements for those services. Care and after-care of patients suffering from mental illness or mental defect form part of the Authority's arrangements for a Mental Health Service.

Tuberculosis.—Before the 1946 Act, Authorities had permissive powers to undertake the after-care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, and this Authority gave effect to the provisions through the Tuberculosis After-Care Sub-Committee. In addition, the Council, acting as agents of the Ministry of Health, paid special allowances to patients who gave up their employment on account of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Since the 5th July, 1948, the payment of money allowances has been the responsibility of the National Assistance Board, and the duty of the Health Authority is the wider one of caring for the physical and social well-being of the tuberculous patient and his family. Under the arrangements of the Authority, assistance is given to patients by:—

- (a) Assistance to obtain additional nourishment or clothing in necessitous cases. The increased allowances paid by the National Assistance Board have reduced these cases considerably.
- (b) Providing shelters on loan in suitable cases. Three shelters were being used by patients at the end of 1948.
- (c) Lending beds and bedding in necessitous cases. Twelve sets were on loan at the end of the year.
- (d) Endeavouring to arrange for the temporary care of children with relatives, or otherwise, and by providing Home Helps if necessary.
- (e) Assistance to obtain suitable housing accommodation in co-operation with the Local Housing Authorities.
- (f) Providing sick room requisites.

It has been necessary to maintain close co-operation with the Officers of the National Assistance Board in connection with tuberculous patients, and I must record appreciation of the cordial relationship existing between them and the Health Department.

Malignant Disease.—No case was brought to the notice of the Authority as requiring assistance.

Nursing Requisites. During the year, the demand for nursing and sick room requisites was very small, and they were met by District Nursing Associations by the issue of articles held in their loan cupboards.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

The National Health Service made Local Health Authorities responsible for making arrangements for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria. The Scheme of this County provides for the work to be undertaken by general medical practitioners,

Medical Officers in charge of Infant Welfare Centres, and Medical Officers of Health. The great majority of general medical practitioners in the County readily agreed to co-operate in the arrangements.

Smallpox Vaccination.—The law (1867-1907) in connection with compulsory vaccination against smallpox was repealed by the National Health Service Act, and the offices of Public Vaccinator and Vaccination Officer were abolished. Under the Vaccination Acts, vaccination against smallpox was compulsory unless a parent had a conscientious objection to it, or a medical practitioner certified that the general health of the child made it inadvisable. For the whole country in the years 1937-1946, over 50% of parents took advantage of the provisions for these exemptions.

During the first six months of 1948 (i.e. the last period under the Vaccination Acts), certificates of successful vaccination were received in respect of 521 infants in this County. In the following six months, medical practitioners forwarded records in respect of the vaccination of 394 infants. This gave a percentage of slightly more than 30% of births for the whole year. The reduction in the number vaccinated during the latter half of the year may be accounted for by the uncertainty in the minds of the public following the abolition of the office of public vaccinator, and it is hoped that when the arrangements are more widely known, a considerable improvement in the numbers vaccinated will result.

While these figures cannot be considered satisfactory, they compare very favourably with those for England and Wales. For the last six months of 1948, 18.2% of infants were vaccinated in England and 10.4% in Wales.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—The story of immunisation against diphtheria gives a completely different and very satisfactory picture. Immunisation was introduced in the Infant Welfare Centres of the County as a voluntary measure in 1934. In 1935, the Scheme was extended to selected schools where there had been considerable concern over the incidence of the disease. The immunisation of school children was the responsibility of the Local Sanitary Authorities but School Medical Officers assisted considerably in the work. This means of protection, however, only gradually became recognised and it was not until the early war years that it became really acknowledged by the general public.

The increasing number of children in the County immunised against diphtheria from 1940 coincided with the gradual reduction in the deaths from diphtheria, the figures being as follows:—

Deaths.—

1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
12	16	8	3	2	3	0	1	0

No deaths from diphtheria occurred at the County Isolation Hospital for the years 1946, 1947, and 1948.

During 1948, 2,452 children (2,289 under 5 years of age and 163 between 5 and 15 years of age) were immunised; 1,336 of these children under 5 years of age and 163 between 5 and 15 years of age were immunised after the 5th July. 1,407 children received booster injections during the latter period.

The following table gives the diphtheria immunisation state of the children in the County at the end of the year:—

No. of Children under 5 years of age.	No. Immunised.	%	No. of Children 5—15 years of age.	No. Immunised.	%
12,769	6,618	52.60	22,389	17,975	80.28

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Under the National Health Service Act, responsibility for Hospital and Institutional accommodation for all types of mental cases passed to the Regional Hospital Board and they took over in this County, the Joint Counties Mental Hospital, Carmarthen, and Pantglas Hall Institution, Llanfynydd. The County Council as Health Authority became responsible for the care and after-care of mental cases, and this includes the initial care of patients, their conveyance to Hospital or Institution, and any community care that may be necessary. In short, the Authority have the difficult task of dealing with the social and personal problems of the patients and their dependants. These duties fall into two categories:—

- (a) Those arising under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts (i.e., patients who, previously normal, have become mentally ill).
- (b) Those under the Mental Deficiency Acts (i.e., patients of incomplete development of brain).

There has been no provision in the County for the social and community care of either of these classes of patients and it was, therefore, necessary to formulate completely new and comprehensive proposals for a properly co-ordinated Mental Health Service. The Scheme combines the work for mental illness and mental defect. The care of mental patients not requiring medical treatment is now part of the Local Authority Health Services under the administrative control of the County Medical Officer of Health, and the Authority have delegated the functions of the Scheme to a Mental Health Sub-Committee of the Health Committee.

Four ex-Relieving Officers were appointed as Health Welfare Officers duly authorised to take initial proceedings in providing care and treatment for persons suffering from mental illness, and to undertake

the community care and supervision of mental patients (including at the request of the Hospital Authority, patients discharged from Hospital or Institution). Defined areas are not laid down for these Officers; they undertake duties where required, but three operate from Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli, respectively. The fourth is employed on relief duties.

The National Association for Mental Health had agreed to co-operate in the supervision of the care of mental cases in the County and to second one of their trained Social Workers to the County Health Department for that purpose. As a beginning, the Association arranged for social workers to make visits to the County in the last few months of the year to investigate and report on the present position of the cases of 142 mental defectives in respect of whom records were held. Unfortunately, the Association afterwards found that they were not in a position to assist as intended and withdrew from the arrangements made. This resulted in the Authority having in 1949 to draw up a new Scheme under the Act.

Lunacy Acts.—During the period 5th July to 31st December, 1948, the Health Welfare Officers arranged for the certification of 32 patients who were admitted to the Mental Hospital at Carmarthen under the provisions of the Lunacy Acts. In addition, the Health Welfare Officers, during the same period, assisted in the admission of seven cases as Voluntary Patients to the same Hospital.

Mental Deficiency Acts.—At 31st December, 1948, the number of mental defectives ascertained to be "subject to be dealt with" was 112 (61 males, 51 females). Of that number, 13 (8 males, 5 females) were ascertained during 1948. Four cases (2 males, 2 females) were admitted to Institutions during the year, and at the end of the year, three (1 male, 2 females) remained on the waiting list for admission. One female patient was out on licence at the end of the year.

The reports submitted by the Social Workers of the National Association for Mental Health on the cases of the mental defectives seen by them at the end of 1948, revealed that:—

- (a) The defectives seen were on the whole well cared for by their parents or relatives.
- (b) Many parents were anxious about the future of the defectives and enquired as to the possibility of their receiving suitable training.
- (c) Some defectives are a great burden to their parents.
- (d) Some of the defectives showed an aptitude for certain trades but were not always encouraged by their parents.
- (e) Those over 16 years of age received financial assistance from the National Assistance Board.
- (f) The Social Worker was welcomed in most of the homes.

There is an obvious demand for help and assistance in these unfortunate cases, but until the Service is properly staffed very little can be done for them.

COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The provision of an Ambulance Service was another new duty which fell to the County Council on the 5th July, 1948, under the National Health Service Act. The duty is to secure that Ambulances and other means of transport are available, when necessary, for the conveyance of persons who:—

- (a) Suffer from illness.
- (b) Suffer from mental deficiency.
- (c) Are expectant or nursing mothers.

Illness includes mental illness, and any injury or disability requiring medical or dental treatment, or nursing. The Service, which is free of charge to all patients, is, however, restricted to those who are unable to travel by bus or train. Responsibility for providing an Ambulance or other vehicle rests in every case on the Authority in whose Area the need arises.

The County was, prior to the 5th July, covered to a large extent by voluntary ambulance services. The Priory for Wales of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem operated a service in the industrial area with ambulance stations at Ammanford, Glanamman, Llanelly, Trimsaran and Tumble. There was an active local Division of the Priory at Carmarthen which operated a Service of three Ambulances in the Carmarthen area; one of these Ambulances was on loan from the Carmarthen County Infirmary. The Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee which works in close co-operation with the Priory had Ambulances stationed at Llandilo and Llandovery. Ambulance stations in Glamorgan and Cardiganshire also served some of the population along the border areas. In addition, the County Council owned one Ambulance which was reserved for the conveyance of cases of communicable disease and stationed at the County Isolation Hospital.

Under the arrangements for a County Ambulance Service:—

- (a) The Authority retained responsibility for the Ambulance at the County Isolation Hospital, and the Hospital Management Committee agreed to the Ambulance Station at the Hospital being continued.
- (b) St. John Priory became sole agents of the Authority for the operation and maintenance of the other Ambulances in the County.
- (c) The Women's Voluntary Services re-introduced their Hospital Car Service for the conveyance of "sitting" cases.
- (d) The Authority decided to provide and maintain three cars also for "sitting cases."
- (e) Arrangements for mutual assistance were arranged with adjoining Health Authorities.

The Ambulance Stations already established in the County were continued, and an additional Ambulance Station of one Ambulance was established at Whitland. One additional Ambulance was also provided at Llanelly Station, while the Ambulance held on loan by the Carmarthen

Ambulance Division was withdrawn from the Service and handed over to the West Wales Hospital Management Committee. A twenty-four hours service is provided at the Stations, and a summary of the provision made is as follows:—

Station.	Number of Ambulances.	Whole-time Drivers.	Attendants.
Llanelly	2	4	Two Whole-time and volunteers.
Carmarthen	2	4	Two Whole-time and volunteers.
Glanamman	1	2	Volunteers.
Ammanford	1	2	Volunteers.
Trimsaran	1	2	Volunteers.
Tumble	1	2	Volunteers.
Llandilo	1	2	Volunteers.
Llandovery	1	1*	Volunteers.
Whitland	1	2	Volunteers.
Isolation Hospital	1	1	Nurse from Hospital Staff.

*Garage arrangement.

Owing to difficulties with petrol supplies, delay occurred in the re-establishment of the Hospital Car Service, but the County Branch of the Women's Voluntary Services gradually built up the Service, and at the end of the year, twenty car owners had signified their willingness to co-operate in the Scheme. This Hospital Car Service afterwards became a vital part of the Ambulance Service and greatly assisted in coping with the demand for ambulance transport facilities. The thanks of the Authority are due to the Hon. Officers and members of the Women's Voluntary Services for their assistance. Pending delivery of the cars to be operated directly by the Authority for "sitting" cases, hired cars were used for the work.

An Ambulance Control Centre was set up at Carmarthen, and Mr. G. B. Evans was appointed County Ambulance Officer on the Staff of the County Medical Officer of Health, to undertake the operational direction of the Service. He commenced duties only one month before the inauguration of the Service on the 5th July, and he immediately entered upon his duties with energy and efficiency. A good many difficulties also arose in the months that followed in connection with the operation and co-ordination of such a rapidly expanding Service. The Ambulance Officer played no small part in the smooth running of the Service. Tribute must also be paid to the co-operation of the Officers of the St. John Priory.

The demand for transport under the County Ambulance Service proved to be far greater than had been expected. For the year 1946, the Ambulance Services in the County conveyed 6,958 patients and travelled 123,567 miles. From the 5th July to the 31st December, 1948 (i.e., for six months of the year), patients and mileages were as follows:—

	No. of Patients.	Mileage.
Ambulances	8,240	123,516
Hired Cars	826	12,845
W.V.S. Hospital Car Service...	158	10,060
Grand Total ..	9,224	146,421

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

Apart from the smouldering poliomyelitis epidemic of 1947 which continued into 1948, with additional cases of the disease in August and September, nothing of note occurred in 1948. As compared with 52 cases of poliomyelitis admitted to the County Isolation Hospital in 1947, only 30 were admitted in 1948 and these were largely of a milder nature, the number with residual paresis being very small.

No confirmed case of diphtheria was seen at the Hospital and suspicious cases were nearly all cases of streptococcal infection. No death was recorded in the County as due to diphtheria.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Carmarthenshire cases are treated at the Venereal Diseases Clinics at the Swansea and Llanelli General Hospitals.

182 new patients from the County attended during the year as follows:—

	Syphilis.	Soft Sore.	Gonor- rhoea.	Non-V.D. and other conditions.	Total.
Swansea Clinic	16	3	27	41	87
Llanelli Clinic	25	—	18	52	95
Total	41	3	45	93	182

Total attendances of patients during the year:—

Swansea Clinic	1124
Llanelli Clinic	1567
Total	2691

Eight patients received in-patient treatment at the Swansea General Hospital, the number of in-patient days being 134.

The following Table gives comparative numbers of new cases dealt with for the first time during each of the last five years:—

Year.	Acquired and Congenital Syphilis.			Soft Sore.	Gonorrhoea.			Undiagnosed and Non-V.D.
	M.	F.	T.		M.	F.	T.	
1944 ...	38	25	63	...	27	8	35	90
1945 ...	14	23	37	...	38	18	56	69
1946 ...	39	37	76	2	62	10	72	122
1947 ...	42	26	68	4	52	5	57	93
1948 ...	15	26	41	3	41	4	45	93

The following Table summarises the work of the Clinics during 1948:—

New and Old Cases.	Swansea Clinic.		Llanelli Clinic.		Total Male	Total Female	Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.			
(1) Cases under treatment or observation on January 1st ...	91	46	55	29	146	75	221
(2) Returned defaulters ...	7	1	1	—	8	1	9
(3) New cases dealt with for the first time and suffering from:							
(a) Syphilis:							
Primary ...	1	1	1	2	2	3	5
Secondary ...	2	—	2	—	4	—	4
Latent ...	1	4	4	10	5	14	19
Later Stages ...	3	4	—	—	3	4	7
Congenital ...	—	—	1	5	1	5	6
(b) Soft Sore ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	3
(c) Gonorrhoea ...	26	1	15	3	41	4	45
(d) Non-Venereal or undiagnosed ...	36	5	33	19	69	24	93
(4) New cases previously treated at other centres, etc. ...	14	1	13	8	27	9	36
Totals ...	184	63	125	76	309	139	448
Attendances as Out-Patients:—							
(a) Seen by Medical Officer	579	265	595	534	1174	799	1973
(b) For intermediate treatment	210	70	234	204	444	274	718
Total attendances ...	789	335	829	738	1618	1073	2691
“IN-PATIENTS”:—							
In-patients admitted for treatment during year ...	2	6	—	—	2	6	8
No. of in-patient days of treatment ...	11	123	—	—	11	123	134

The following Table shows the results of treatment in 1948:—

	Swansea Clinic.				Llanelly Clinic.			
	Syph- ilis	Soft Sore	Gon- or- rhoea	Not V.D. etc.	Syph- ilis	Soft Sore	Gon- or- rhoea	Not V.D. etc.
Cases under treatment, etc., on January 1st ...	90	3	28	16	39	—	12	33
Cases dealt with for first time, including new cases, returned default- ers and transfers in ...	28	3	38	41	36	—	27	54
Total ...	118	6	66	57	75	—	39	87
Discharged cured after completion of treat- ment	26	1	31	35	5	—	15	24
Ceased to attend before completion of treat- ment	10	—	—	—	11	—	5	—
Ceased to attend after completion of treat- ment but before final tests of cure	24	4	16	5	—	—	2	—
Cases under treatment or observation that died from the disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transferred out to other Centres, Institutions, etc.	10	—	4	2	—	—	1	20
Cases remaining under treatment, etc., on 31st December	48	1	15	15	59	—	16	43
Total ...	118	6	66	57	75	—	39	87

TUBERCULOSIS.

Two Chest Physicians, with two Assistant Physicians cover the County. The Physicians of Pembrokeshire and Swansea also attend Carmarthenshire cases along the borders of the County.

Incidence—Comparative Statement.

The number of new cases reported by formal notification or otherwise and the case rates per 1,000 population during the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	No. of Respiratory cases.			Case rate.	No. of Non-Respiratory cases.			Case rate.
1944	...	290	...	1.7	...	66	...	.40
1945	...	257	...	1.5	...	69	...	.42
1946	...	229	...	1.3	...	56	...	.33
1947	...	230	...	1.39	...	85	...	.52
1948	...	190	...	1.11	...	79	...	.48

The mortality figures for the same five years are as follows:—

Year.	Deaths from Respiratory T.B.			Death Rate per 1,000 population.	Deaths from Non-Respiratory T.B.			Death Rate per 1,000 population.
1944	...	112	...	.68	...	21	...	.12
1945	...	89	...	.54	...	24	...	.14
1946	...	101	...	.61	...	18	...	.10
1947	...	100	...	.60	...	17	...	.10
1948	...	89	...	.52	...	25	...	.14

The following Table shows the age distribution of all new cases notified during 1948:—

Age Periods.			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total.
			M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—1	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
1—5	...	...	1	1	3	3	8
5—15	...	...	2	8	15	3	23
15—25	...	...	18	36	15	7	76
25—35	...	...	22	20	5	6	53
35—45	...	...	19	17	5	2	43
45—55	...	...	11	4	5	2	22
55—65	...	...	16	4	3	1	24
65 +	...	...	7	3	2	1	13
Total			96	94	54	25	
Grand Total			190		79		269

The following Table shows the deaths from Tuberculosis classified into the various age groups for the year 1948:—

Age Periods.			Deaths from Tuberculosis.			
			1948.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	1	...
1—5	...	...	1	...	2	...
5—15	...	...	...	1	4	2
15—45	...	...	25	28	2	2
45—65	...	...	21	5	6	4
65 +	...	...	5	3	2	...
Total	...	...	52	37	17	8
Grand Total	...	...	89		25	

Examinations and Dispensary Records.

During the year 2,605 new cases, including 229 contacts, were examined. Of these 186 were diagnosed as definitely tuberculous and 2,419 as non-tuberculous. 1,025 patients (803 pulmonary and 222 non-pulmonary) were on the Dispensary registers on the 31st December, 1948.

In the year under review, 361 cases were written off, 132 as recovered, 98 dead and 84 removed from the County or otherwise lost sight of and 47 for other reasons.

TABLE SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARIES.

1948.													
DIAGNOSIS.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.				Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A. Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Registers at the beginning of the year	366	267	34	39	56	95	40	33	422	362	74	72	930
Transfers from other Authorities	7	8	...	1	2	1	...	...	9	9	...	1	19
Lost sight of cases returned during the year	117	106	...	...	14	13	...	1	131	119	...	1	251
B. Number of New Cases diagnosed as Tuberculous during the year:—													
1. Class TB. Minus	40	34	8	5	12	11	9	1	52	45	17	6	120
2. Class TB. Plus	28	27	...	1	4	2	2	2	32	29	2	3	66
C. Number of cases included in A and B written off the Dispensary Register during the year as:—													
1. Recovered	31	25	13	19	9	16	12	7	40	41	25	26	132
2. Dead (all causes)	46	38	1	2	4	1	4	2	50	39	5	4	98
3. Removed to other Areas	36	34	2	1	6	3	1	1	42	37	3	2	84
4. For other reasons	20	17	...	...	4	5	1	...	24	22	1	...	47
D. Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the end of the year	425	328	26	24	65	97	33	27	490	425	59	51	1025

Residential Treatment.

There were 151 patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria on the 1st January, 1948. 213 patients were admitted during the year.

COUNTY WELFARE SERVICES.

An important part of the comprehensive social legislation of 1948 was the National Assistance Act which was the final step in the break-up of the poor law system. Under that Act, responsibility for financial assistance to persons in need passed to the National Assistance Board, and the County Council became responsible for the welfare (but not medical treatment) of persons who are blind, deaf or dumb, aged, and others who are substantially and permanently physically handicapped. The County Council appointed a County Welfare Committee to undertake the Council's functions under the Act.

Blind Persons.—The Carmarthenshire Blind Society continued to act as agents to the County Council for the care and welfare of blind persons. Three Home Teachers are employed in the County.

There was also no change in the arrangements for the medical examination and certification of cases by the County Medical Officer of Health. Specialist examination when necessary, is arranged at the Ophthalmic Clinics at Carmarthen and Llanelly but if a patient is unable to travel, a domiciliary visit is made by the Ophthalmologist.

During the year, 64 new cases were examined, 45 of whom were found to be blind. The total number of the blind persons on the Register at the end of the year was 336 (as compared with 332 on the 31st December, 1947) and statistical information is given in the following tables:—

TABLE I.—Age distribution of Persons on Blind Register.

0-1	1-5	5-16	16-21	21-40	40-50	50-65	65-70	70+	Unknown	Total.
...	1	1	3	19	26	86	24	172	4	336

TABLE II.—Ages at which blindness occurred.

0-1	1-5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70+	Unknown	Total.
20	4	2	11	16	27	32	52	76	74	22	336

TABLE III.—Children of School Age—5-16.

Normal.		Mentally Defective.			Physically Defective.			Total.
In School for Blind.	Other Schools.	Not at School.	In School for Blind.	Other Schools.	Not at School.	In School for Blind.	Other Schools.	Not at School.
1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
								2

TABLE IV.—Training and Employment.—Age 16 and upwards.

Employed.			Undergoing Training.			Trained but Unemployed (h)	Not Training but Trainable. (i)	Unemployable (j)	Total. (k)
By Blind Organisations.	All others not in (a) (b) (c)	Total employed. (d)	Industrial (e)	Secondary. (f)	Professional or University. (g)				
Workshops (a)	Home Workers (b)								
2	6	12	1	...	1	...	2	310	334

TABLE V.—Physically and Mentally Defective—(All Ages).

(a) Mentally Defective.	(b) Physically Defective.	(c) Deaf.	(d) Deaf mute.	(c) Combination of (a) & (b)	(f) Combination of (a) & (c) or (d).	(g) Combination of (b) & (c) or (d).	(h) Combination of (a), (b) & (c) or (d).	Total.
9	35	3	3	3	1	1	...	55

MILK CONTROL.

The number of animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, during the past five years is as follows:—

1944	...	...	...	...	24
1945	...	...	...	...	12
1946	...	...	...	...	21
1947	...	...	...	...	16
1948	...	...	...	...	14

The following Table gives the number of licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, during the year 1948:—

Number of "Accredited Milk" Licence holders in the County on the 31st December, 1948	...	...	...	...	859
Number of New "Accredited Milk" Licences issued during 1948	...	...	...	...	199
Number of "Tuberculin Tested Milk" Licence holders in the County on the 31st December, 1948	...	...	...	...	687
Number of New "Tuberculin Tested Milk" Licences issued during 1948	...	...	...	...	128

For purposes of comparison the following summary is given showing the number of licences issued up to the end of the last five years:—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Accredited Licences	1216	892	867	855	859
Tuberculin Tested do.	219	465	535	600	687

Sampling of Designated Milk.—The aim is to take four samples yearly of each designated milk. If three consecutive samples prove satisfactory during the year the fourth sample is not taken. If the results of consecutive samples are unsatisfactory a "run of samples" is taken.

The following table shows the number of samples taken during the last three years, and also the percentage of unsatisfactory samples:—

Year.	No. Taken.	No. Unsatisfactory.	% Unsatisfactory.
1946	3702	1907	51.5%
1947	3462	1214	35.0%
1948	3905	1729	44.28%

Revocation of Licences.—During 1948, 21 licences of Tuberculin Tested Producers and 32 licences of Accredited Producers were revoked owing to unsatisfactory samples. A designated licence may be renewed on application at the end of a period of six months following revocation provided that a series of samples of milk collected during that time have shown a consistent standard of cleanliness.

Milk in Schools Scheme.—During 1948, 976 samples were taken by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of milk supplied to schools. Of these 786 were found to be satisfactory and 190 unsatisfactory.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.—The number of inspections of cowsheds and dairies carried out by the Local Sanitary Authorities during 1948 was 1,361, viz.:—Llanelly Borough 103, Carmarthen Borough 45, Llandilo Urban 61, Llandovery Borough 24, Kidwelly Borough 42, Newcastle Emlyn Urban 8, Ammanford Urban 48, Burry Port Urban 32, Cwmamman Urban nil, Llanelly Rural 522, Carmarthen Rural 217, Llandilo Rural 89, Newcastle Emlyn Rural 170.

The number of samples taken by the Local Sanitary Authorities during 1948, was 560.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

Water Supply.—During the year, the Carmarthen and Llandilo Rural District Councils took active steps for the provision of additional water supplies.

The Carmarthen Rural District Council received the approval of the Welsh Board of Health to their Western Area Water Supply Scheme which covers Eglwyscumin, Llanddowror, St. Clears, Mydrim, Laugharne, Pendine, Llanstephan and Llangynog. Constructional work was commenced in 1949. The Council's Eastern Area Water Supply Scheme covering Llangendeirne, Llanarthney, Llanddarog, Llangunnor, and Llandefeilog was in the course of preparation at the end of the year. The latter Scheme is based on the legendary lake known as Llyn-Llech-Owain. In addition to these two major schemes, several other schemes for the supply of individual villages were in various stages of preparation.

The Llandilo Rural District Council had under consideration proposals for an extensive water supply scheme based on the River Towy as suggested by a Consultant Engineer appointed by the County Council. Other possible sources of supply were also being considered. Schemes were also prepared for the villages of Brechfa and Halfway (Llandovery).

Sewage Disposal.—The Sanitary Authorities in the County were also actively engaged in improving the sewerage of their districts. Work connected with the Pontyates Joint Sewerage Scheme of the Carmarthen and Llanelly Rural District Councils started during the year, and brief particulars of other Schemes in the County are given below:—

Carmarthen Rural.—Schemes as follows were in an advanced stage of preparation:

- (i) Drefach and District Joint Sewerage Scheme.
- (ii) Cross Hands and District Joint Sewerage Scheme.
- (iii) Whitland Sewerage Scheme.
- (iv) Trelech Sewerage Scheme.

Preliminary work was also in hand for a Ferryside Sewerage Scheme.

Llanelly Rural.—The Council completed a Sewerage Scheme for Tycrocs Village, and a scheme for Hendy was nearing completion. Extensions to existing sewerages were also carried out in several areas.

Llandilo Rural.—Schemes were being prepared for the villages of Penygrocs, Capel Hendre, Blaenau, Caerbryn, Ffairfach, Rhosmaen, and Llansawel, and it was proposed to connect parts of Bettws to the sewers of the Ammanford Urban District Council.

Llandovery Borough.—A Scheme for this Borough had been prepared and constructional work was expected to begin in 1949.

Newcastle Emlyn Rural.—The Council prepared schemes to serve the more populated areas of the District.

Burry Port Urban.—A Scheme for the unsewered portion of the district had been submitted to the Welsh Board of Health for approval.

VITAL STATISTICS—1948.

52

Name of District.	Estimated Population for 1948	Nett Births		Deaths Registered in District.		Transferable Deaths.		Deaths under 1 year.		Area of District in Acres.	Census 1931.
		No.	Rate per 1000 Population.	No.	Rate per 1000 Population.	Outward.	Inward.	No.	Rate per 1000 Net Births.		
URBAN											
Llanelli ...	34,980	530	15.16	441	12.61	73	37	20	37.73	2069	38416
Carmarthen ...	12,490	183	14.65	132	10.57	153	13	8	43.71	5160	10310
Llandilo ...	1,886	18	9.54	17	9.01	...	2	1	55.56	304	1886
Llandovery ...	1,826	29	15.88	28	15.33	7	3	1	34.48	1266	1980
Kidwelly ...	2,930	50	17.06	36	12.29	...	7	...	...	2854	3159
Newcastle Emlyn ...	784	13	16.58	11	14.03	...	3	...	...	208	763
Ammanford ...	6,510	113	17.36	92	14.14	1	26	3	26.55	944	7164
Burry Port ...	5,784	102	17.64	58	10.02	...	12	1	9.80	1374	5755
Cwmaman ...	4,590	69	15.03	54	11.77	5	18	2	28.98	756	5217
Total ...	71,780	1,107	15.42	869	12.11	239	121	36	32.53	14935	74650
RURAL											
Llanelli... ..	35,930	606	16.87	398	11.08	13	92	24	39.60	51367	37266
Carmarthen ...	27,670	459	16.58	342	12.36	10	70	20	43.57	202622	29269
Llandilo-fawr ...	26,314	439	16.68	317	12.05	8	68	13	29.61	236706	28875
Newcastle Emlyn	8,506	122	14.34	122	14.34	1	20	5	40.99	82842	9040
Total ...	98,420	1,626	16.52	1,179	11.98	32	250	62	38.14	573537	104450
Urban Districts	71,780	1,107	15.42	869	12.11	239	121	36	32.53	14935	74650
Rural Districts	98,420	1,626	16.52	1,179	11.98	32	250	62	38.14	573537	104450
Whole County	170,200	2,733	16.06	2,048	12.03	271	371	98	35.86	588472	179100
England & Wales	...	...	17.90	...	10.80	...	...	...	34.00	...	...